

Chairman, Representative Gary MacLaren and members of the House Local Government Committee, my name is Richard E. Grady, a private citizen, at 9312 Lincoln Road West – Canyon Creek Montana, located 25 miles Northwest of Helena.

I am submitting written comments in support of House Bill No. 150 introduced by Representative Ted Washburn – Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 405 – House Local Government Committee

My family has a ranching operation; I am a small business owner and a trustee/secretary for the Canyon Creek Rural Fire District. I currently serve a three year term voted by the taxpayers of the district and I ran for a trustee position with a clear understanding too the voters that I supported a balance between the growth of the district, and the district budget for the taxpayers, which are open, transparent and accountable for those that the district serves.

I feel the proposed changes under MCA 7-3-2105 Powers and duties of trustees will help improve the accountable of the taxpayer's dollars and to insure the trustees of a fire district are responsible to have sound financial accounting principles.

The district has a \$55,000 dollar annual operating budget, with another \$38,000.00 toward a capital improvement type fund for equipment and training. The district has a fire station with a 100 gallon per minute well that serves the fire station, along with two wildland engines, a water tender and structural engine. The value of the district assets today if it had to be replaced would be between \$750,000 to One million dollars.

I appreciate the opportunity as a private citizen to provide written documentation in support of House Bill No. 150.

Thank-you

/s/ *Richard E. Grady*

Richard E. Grady

PO Box 547

9312 Lincoln Road West

Canyon Creek, MT 59633

406-368-2308

gradybunch@lincintel.net

April 22, 2009

Dear Property/Homeowner

I am asking for your support and vote in my interest in serving on the Board of Trustee that serves as a volunteer of the Canyon Creek Rural Fire District, Board of Trustee Election on **Tuesday – May 5, 2009** at the Canyon Creek School on 7435 Duffy Lane in Canyon Creek, Montana. It is my understanding the polls will open at noon at the School for the elections.

If you have any question regarding the election concerning voting absentee, time polls will open, etc. one can contact the Lewis & Clark County Election office at 406-447-8338.

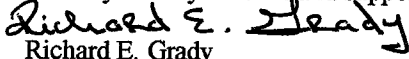
- I can bring to the board over 30 years of fire management involving rural fire district administration regarding policies, procedures, fireground operations and equipment management during my past employment and retirement with the state and federal agencies concerning wildland and structural incidents and administration.
- I have volunteer my time and served in the capacity for over 18 years as the Rural Fire District Chief of the Canyon Creek Rural Fire District working with the previous board of trustees, community on fire protections plans, firefighter training development and programs, wildland urban interface issues, district annexation, fire prevention programs, mutual aid agreements and fireground operations utilizing the Incident Command System required under the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Served for over 10 years as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Lewis and Clark County Rural Fire Council that helps with county wide input and coordination with fire management issues with the Lewis and Clark County Commissioners, state and federal agencies; along with other Rural Fire District and Fire Service Areas with volunteer firefighters in Lewis and Clark County.
- In my private business, I work each day on training development programs, firefighter qualifications and equipment standards working with private companies, State and Federal agencies throughout the Pacific Northwest. This helps with firefighter recruitment, development and training programs, along with fire equipment inspection programs that meet regional and national standards.

My interest in serving as a Board of Trustee who is willing to volunteer the time for the community and fire department membership based on my experience and education on three basic principles:

- Strive for continued community involvement regarding the administrative affairs of the district operations to foster strong community working relationships.
- Provide a balance between the growth of the district, and the district budget for the taxpayers, which are open, transparent, and accountable for those that the district serves.
- Support the volunteerism of the fire department membership to provide growth of the current membership, training opportunities, and equipment upgrades.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 406-368-2308 or email at gradybunch@linctel.net

Thank-you for your time and support.


Richard E. Grady
PO Box 547
Canyon Creek, Montana 59633

Marilyn Bracken
Election Supervisor
Telephone (406) 447-8338
Fax (406) 457-8598



City-County Building
316 North Park Room #168
Helena, MT 59623

CONSOLIDATED OFFICE OF TREASURER/CLERK AND RECORDER

June 5, 2009

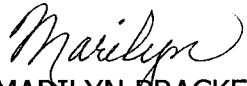
Richard E. Grady
PO Box 547
Canyon Creek, Mt 59633

Dear Richard:

Congratulations on your election to the Canyon Creek Fire Department
Board. Your term will expire in the year 2012.

Your Certificate of Election is enclosed.

Sincerely,


MARILYN BRACKEN
Election Supervisor
Lewis and Clark County

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Enc.



Man accused of embezzling from Three Rivers Emergency Medical Service

Associated Press | Posted: Thursday, December 30, 2010 6:10 am

KALISPELL — A 27-year-old Flathead County man accused of embezzling more than \$28,000 from Three Rivers Emergency Medical Service has been charged with felony theft and official misconduct.

Cody James Westgard turned himself in Wednesday after an arrest warrant was issued Dec. 21.

Court records say Westgard resigned as secretary and treasurer of the emergency response unit June 23 after board members questioned him about missing money. He is accused of transferring the money to himself through checks drawn on Three Rivers' accounts, making cash withdrawals on a Three Rivers' account at a credit union and using some money to buy items not listed in court documents.

The Daily Inter Lake in Kalispell reports that Westgard is accused of stealing \$28,376.

Three Rivers serves Columbia Falls and surrounding areas.